

(c) No such complaints have been received against Embassy officials in the Ministry. Indian Missions extend consular access/services and possible assistance to women complaining of harassment/cheating/desertion by their NRI husbands. Indian Women's Associations, NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions also provide them legal assistance in fighting their cases in the local courts.

(d) In view of (c) above, question does not arise.

Collection of biometric data of foreigners

*31. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a pilot project in the Indian Consulates in certain other countries to collect the biometric data of all foreign nationals applying for visas to visit India;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) by when this is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to start enrolment of biometric procedures as a pilot project in our Indian Missions and Posts in USA, UK and Pakistan. The enrolment of biometric procedures include capturing of ten fingerprints and facial biometrics.

(c) Government proposes to complete the process of implementation of biometric procedures by September 2014 subject to completion of all requirements in the Indian Missions and Posts and other local factors in the host countries.

Malaysian model for Haj

†*32. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to adopt Malaysian model of Haj;

(b) if so, by when it would be adopted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration. However, a report on 'Haj Management Reforms' was submitted in 2006 to the Hon'ble Prime Minister *suo motto* by a Task

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Force comprising a group of Members of parliament led by then Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha. The Tabung Haji model envisaged in that report was examined by the Ministry and was also studied at the level of Committee of Secretaries in March 2007. Keeping in view the socio-political, economic and legal environment obtaining in India, it was not found feasible to accept the recommendations of the Task Force.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Does not arise.

Death of tribal children

*33. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that deaths of tribal children due to severe malnutrition is rampant in the tribal dominated Melaghat region of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last four years, year-wise; and
- (c) the remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take to prevent the deaths of tribal children due to malnutrition in Melaghat, Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) According to the information received from State Government of Maharashtra, no death has occurred in Melaghat Tribal Area due to severe malnutrition.

- (b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Government of Maharashtra is making various measures to improve the health of malnourished children. In addition to the regular foods/ supplementary nutrition supplied under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and implementation of SABLA and Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana in Amravati district; the State Government is providing micronutrient foods like Chikki, multivitamin syrup, Ayurvedic Biscuits, Calcium syrup etc. to improve the health of malnourished children.

Intended economic reforms

*34. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various economic reforms which Government intends to bring about but is not able to introduce due to opposition from certain quarters;